

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended and claim 9 is added.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,654,090 to Kim et al., claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kim in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,657,689 to Baek et al. and claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kim in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,540,361 to Hayashi. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In amended independent claim 1, the light shield is applied with a voltage and the liquid crystal alignment is controlled by an electric potential developed by difference in electric potential between the pixel electrode and the light shielding film. Thus, there is no need for a counter electrode.

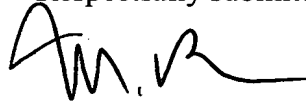
Kim includes a counter electrode resulting in greater light absorption and higher production cost. Baek and Hayashi do not provide the deficiencies of Kim.

With regard to new independent claim 9, as discussed above with respect to claim 1, Kim does not disclose the pixel electrode being selectively applied with voltage in the light shielding film being applied with a voltage to selectively develop an electric field between the pixel electrode and the light shielding film to control alignment of liquid crystal. Instead, Kim is provided with a counter electrode.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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